

FREDD STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

SHELTON STATE

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

*A Jubilee
Celebration of*

**BLACK HISTORY
MONTH**

featuring

Congressman Artur Davis

Friday, February 7, 2003



PRELUDE

Kevin Durham, pianist
Stillman College student

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS

Central High School JROTC

WELCOME

Cordell Wynn Ph.D.
Chairman of Fredd State Jubilee Committee

INVOCATION

LaTasha Williams, vocalist
Stillman College student

DINNER

GREETINGS AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Bryant Melton
Director of Fredd Campus

NEGRO SPIRITUAL - His Eye is on the Sparrow
LaTasha Williams

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

Rick Rogers, Ed.D.
President

SPEAKER

Congressman Artur Davis
Alabama 7th Congressional District

NEGRO SPIRITUAL - Keep Your Lamps
LaTasha Williams

REMARKS

Cordell Wynn



Congressman Artur Davis represents Alabama's Seventh Congressional District which is made up of all or parts of twelve counties: Jefferson, Tuscaloosa, Choctaw, Clarke, Dallas, Greene, Hale, Marengo, Perry, Pickens, Sumter and Wilcox.

Focused on important quality of life issues such as healthcare, education funding and economic development, Congressman Davis is determining a legislative agenda to address many of the ills that he feels face the district such as high unemployment and poverty rates. He also wants to determine methods to reduce the ranks

of the uninsured and assist in recruiting industry to the area.

A Montgomery native; he attended Jefferson Davis High School and Harvard University, where he graduated suma cum laude. He then went on to Harvard Law School, graduating cum laude. During his time at Harvard, Davis served an internship with former U.S. Senator Howell Heflin. He also interned at the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery.

His professional career includes work as an attorney focusing on criminal defense and employment discrimination. He also served in the capacity of clerk for Judge Myron Thompson in Montgomery, one of the first black judges to serve on the federal bench. Congressman Davis' experience also includes serving as an Assistant United States Attorney for four years. It was during that time that he saw first-hand the ravages of the drug trade and crime throughout the community and fought to protect neighborhoods by prosecuting high level drug dealers and white collar criminals with a near 100 percent conviction rate.

Sworn into office in January of this year, he continues to work to uplift the people of his community by volunteering with many public schools and various non-profit organizations. He attends Sixth Avenue Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black History has been officially observed in North America for 77 years. This observance continues to draw attention and recognition to the outstanding achievements and contributions blacks made to the building of the great country – America.

In 1926, the second week of February was designated in the United States to celebrate the importance of black history, to present a new picture of a glorious African past and to people of color – pride in their culture and inheritance. The week was chosen to coincide with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. Since 1976, as a part of our nation's Bicentennial, the entire month of February is set aside to expand this proper and appropriate recognition.

Individuals from all racial, economic, cultural and ethnic strands are encouraged to actively participate in this year's observance of Black History Month activities. In so doing, it will add zealous emphasis upon the importance of spreading truth about the African-American backgrounds, culture and contributions made to Western civilization and our great nation. We can do better together.

THE SOULS OF BLACK FOLK: CENTENNIAL REFLECTIONS

Official Theme of
Black History Month 2003

Excerpt from "The spirit and origin of black history month," by Cordell Wynn, Ph.D., president emeritus of Stillman College and special assistant to the president of Shelton State Community College, as printed in The Tuscaloosa News, February 2002.